



# Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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## *Press Release*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **BEACHES CLOSED DUE TO SEWAGE CONTAMINATION**

Since Monday a ruptured City of Port Angeles sewer line near the Valley Creek Estuary is allowing untreated sewage to spill into Port Angeles Harbor. At this point the volume though not known is significant. The City Public Works Dept. estimates 3-4 million gallons per day is entering the bay. There is no estimate of when the repairs will be complete.

The Washington State Department of Health has issued a shellfish closure until further notice for the areas including the East Straits from Crescent Bay to the west end of Dungeness Spit (not including the Spit) due to an ongoing raw sewage discharge from the city of Port Angeles.

The Clallam County Health Officer has closed beaches to avoid swimming, wading or harvesting shellfish from Crescent Beach to Dungeness Spit. Pets should be restrained from entering the marine water as well. The affected beaches have been posted with closure signs and will remain closed until the sewage line is repaired and water quality testing confirms that the water is safe for human contact.

City residents are urged to reduce their water use until the sewer is repaired.

Updates on the sewer line break are posted on the city's Web site, [www.cityofpa.us](http://www.cityofpa.us).

For more information about this health alert contact Clallam County Environmental Health at 360-417-2328.

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